

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-13 RSR-01 /126 W
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R 201501Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 704

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMCONSUL LISBON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 6758

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PU, UN, OAU

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

1. ON AUGUST 16 NEW LEADER OF PAIGC, ARISTEDES PEREIRA, ARRIVED IN LAGOS FOR PURPOSE OF BRIEFING GOWON ON LATEST DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN GUINEA BISSAU. UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN LAGOS PEREIRA AT AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE REPORTEDLY ANNOUNCED THAT GUINEA BISSAU WOULD BE DECLARED INDEPENDENT "ANY TIME THIS YEAR" IN KEEPING WITH THE PROMISE OF LATE AMILCAR CABRAL.

2. DURING PRESS CONFERENCE HE SAID THAT NATIONAL ELECTIONS HAD BEEN HELD IN GUINEA BISSAU AND THAT OTHER CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE HAD BEEN FULFILLED.

3. COMMENT: IN ADDITION TO BRIEFING GOWON ON SITUATION, IT POSSIBLE PEREIRA ALSO SEEING HIM WITH VIEW OBTAINING EARLY FMG AND OAU RECOGNITION OF INDEPENDENT GUINEA BISSAU WHEN DECLARATION OF
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INDEPENDENCE IS MADE. IT ALSO POSSIBLE THERE WILL BE

DISCUSSION OF STRATEGY FOR FORTHCOMING UNGA
IN VIEW PROJECTED VISIT BY GOWON TO UN IN HIS CAPACITY
AS OAU CHAIRMAN.

4. WHILE NO SPECIFIC DATE HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED, CHANCES
ARE THAT IF INTENTION IS CARRIED OUT, PROCLAMATION OF
INDEPENDENCE WILL OCCUR DURING 28TH UNGA. THIS WILL
MOST LIKELY RESULT IN ATTEMPTS BY AFRICAN GROUP IN US
TO GET GA TO RECOGNIZE INDEPENDENT GUINEA BISSAU.
REINHARDT

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